

United States District Court

WESTERN

DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

PAYTEL NORTHWEST, INC., et al.,

Plaintiffs,

V.

U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,

Defendant.

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL CASE

CASE NUMBER

C95-1622wo

FILED
LODGED

ENTERED
RECEIVED

★ OCT 23 1995 ★

TO: (Name and address of defendant)

U S West Communications, Inc.
1600 7th Avenue
Seattle, WA 98191

AT SEATTLE
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
BY _____ DEPUTY

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to serve upon PLAINTIFF'S ATTORNEY (name and address)

R. Alan Wight
Brooks E. Harlow
James L. Phillips
Miller, Nash, Wiener, Hager & Carlsen
4400 Two Union Square
Seattle, WA 98101

an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you, within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. You must also file your answer with the Clerk of this Court within a reasonable period of time after service.

CLERK



(BY) DEPUTY CLERK

October 20, 1995

DATE

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

FILED ENTERED
LOGGED RECEIVED

★ OCT 20 1995 ★

AT SEATTLE
CLERK U.S. DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
BY _____ DEPUTY

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT SEATTLE

PAYTEL NORTHWEST, INC.; GLOBAL)
PAYTEL, INC., dba Global-Tel)
Payphones; PAYPHONE MANAGEMENT,)
INC., dba Digital Access)
Communications; NORTELCO, INC.,)
dba Diversified Service)
Company; CENTRAL TELEPHONE,)
INC.; JOHN S. FLETCHER and)
CAROL FLETCHER, a marital)
community; TELAD INTERNATIONAL,)
INC.; TELCO WEST, INC.,)
dba Telco Northwest, Inc.;)
ALPHA TELCOM, INC.; TIGER)
INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING, INC.,)
dba Pacific Northwest Payphone;)
and INTELLI-COM, INC.,)
dba U S Intella-West, Inc.)

Plaintiffs,)

v.)

U S WEST COMMUNICATIONS, INC.,)

Defendant.)

Civil No. **095-1622**

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTION
AND DAMAGES FOR VIOLATION
OF SHERMAN ACT (15 U.S.C.
§§ 1 AND 2) AND PENDENT
STATE LAW CLAIMS

DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL

Jurisdiction and Venue

1. This is an action under federal and state
antitrust laws to recover money damages resulting from practices

COMPLAINT FOR INJUNCTION AND DAMAGES
FOR VIOLATION OF SHERMAN ACT
(15 U.S.C. §§ 1 AND 2) AND PENDENT
STATE LAW CLAIMS - 1

MILLER, NASH, WIENER,
HAGER & CARLSEN
A PARTNERSHIP INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL CORPORATIONS
ATTORNEYS AND COUNSELORS AT LAW
TELEPHONE (206) 622-8484
4400 TWO UNION SQUARE
UNION STREET, SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98101-2352

1
2 a. Plaintiff Paytel Northwest, Inc., is a
3 corporation organized and existing under the laws of
4 the state of Washington and having its principal place
5 of business in Seattle, Washington.

6 b. Plaintiff Global PayTel, Inc., is a
7 corporation organized and existing under the laws of
8 the state of Washington and having its principal place
9 of business in Auburn, Washington, where it transacts
10 business under the name of Global-Tel Payphones.

11 c. Plaintiff Payphone Management, Inc., is a
12 corporation organized and existing under the laws of
13 the state of Washington and having its principal place
14 of business in Tukwila, Washington, where it transacts
15 business under the name of Digital Access
16 Communications. Payphone Management, Inc., is the
17 assignee of claims of California Phones Ltd.,
18 California Phones Limited 0, California Phones
19 Limited 1, California Phones Limited 2, California
20 Phones Limited 3, California Phones Limited 4,
21 California Phones Limited 5, California Phones
22 Limited 6, California Phones Limited 7, California
23 Phones Limited 8, California Phones Limited 9,
24 California Phones Limited 10, California Phones
25 Limited 11, California Phones Limited 12, California
26 Phones Limited 14, Debbie Truman, and Ken Cheatam.

1
2 d. Plaintiff Nortelco, Inc. ("Nortelco"), is a
3 corporation organized and existing under the laws of
4 the state of Washington and having its principal place
5 of business in Spokane, Washington, where it transacts
6 business under the name of Diversified Service Company.
7 Nortelco is the assignee of claims of Mike T. Kennedy
8 and Betty Kennedy, husband and wife, who owned and
9 operated the unincorporated pay telephone business
10 known as Diversified Service Company between
11 January 1989 and December 1991.

12 e. Plaintiff Central Telephone, Inc., is a
13 corporation organized and existing under the laws of
14 the state of Washington and having its principal place
15 of business in Goldendale, Washington.

16 f. At all material times, plaintiffs
17 John S. Fletcher and Carol Fletcher ("Fletcher") were
18 husband and wife and as such comprised a marital
19 community under the laws of the state of Washington.
20 Plaintiffs Fletcher were the sole shareholders of
21 Public Communications of America, Inc. ("PCA"), a
22 corporation organized and existing under the laws of
23 the state of Washington and having its principal office
24 in Kirkland, Washington, where it transacted business
25 through 1994, when it was dissolved. Plaintiffs
26

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

Fletcher are the holders of PCA's claims against defendant.

g. Plaintiff Telad International, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon and having its principal place of business in Portland, Oregon.

h. Plaintiff Telco West, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon and having its principal place of business in Lake Oswego, Oregon, where it transacts business under the name Telco Northwest, Inc.

i. Plaintiff Alpha Telcom, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon and having its principal place of business in Grants Pass, Oregon.

j. Tiger Industrial Engineering, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon and having its principal office in Portland, Oregon, where it transacts business under the name Pacific Northwest Payphone.

k. Intelli-Com, Inc., is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of Oregon and having its principal office in Portland, Oregon, where it transacts business under the name U S Intella-West, Inc.

1

2 4. Any references to "plaintiffs" include any
3 affiliates, companies, or businesses acquired by any plaintiff
4 that engage in the pay telephone business in U S WEST's service
5 area.

6 5. U S WEST is a corporation organized and existing
7 under the laws of the state of Colorado and having its principal
8 place of business in Denver, Colorado.

9 6. Any references to U S WEST include any
10 predecessors, successors, parents, subsidiaries, affiliates, and
11 divisions of U S WEST, as the context requires.

12 Definitions of Relevant Terms

13 7. The term "pay telephone" refers to any telephone
14 instrument capable of accepting payment by coin, paper currency,
15 or credit card (a) that is provided for the use of members of the
16 public other than the location provider and (b) that is not owned
17 by the location provider.

18 8. The term "LEC" is an acronym for Local Exchange
19 Company, meaning a company that provides local exchange telephone
20 service within a specified geographic service area.

21 9. The term "LATA" is an acronym for Local Access and
22 Transport Area. A LATA is a geographic area within which a LEC
23 is legally permitted to originate and complete telephone calls
24 without assistance from an interexchange (i.e., long distance)
25 carrier. A LEC owned by a Regional Bell Operating Company (such

26

1

2 as U S WEST) is generally not permitted to transmit telephone
3 calls across LATA boundaries.

4 10. The term "IntraLATA" refers to a telephone call
5 that originates and terminates within a LATA. An IntraLATA call
6 can include a local or toll call within a LATA.

7 11. The term "InterLATA" refers to a telephone call
8 that is carried across LATA boundaries and includes international
9 calls.

10 12. The term "service area" refers to those areas in
11 which a particular carrier serves as the LEC. The references to
12 "service area of U S WEST" are to U S WEST or to the conduct of
13 U S WEST within the area of the states of Washington, Oregon, and
14 adjoining states in which U S WEST serves as the LEC.

15 13. The term "location provider," "site owner," or
16 "premise owner" refers to a public or private owner or lessee of
17 a site that arranges or contracts with a pay telephone provider
18 for the installation and operation of one or more pay telephones
19 at its location or locations.

20 14. The term "local exchange facilities" refers to
21 those facilities used by the LEC in its service area to perform
22 any activity or function in connection with the origination,
23 transmission, switching, routing, or termination of an IntraLATA
24 call.

25 15. The term "exchange access facilities" refers to
26 facilities used by the LEC in its service area to perform any

1
2 activity or function in connection with the origination,
3 transmission, switching, routing, or termination of calls between
4 the LEC and interexchange carriers.

5 16. The term "ubiquitous public switched local
6 exchange and exchange access facilities" refers to the facilities
7 described in paragraphs 14 and 15 above and includes the
8 switches, lines, and appurtenant facilities that enable
9 communications to flow within, into, or out of the LEC's service
10 area in the states of Washington and Oregon. These facilities
11 include (but are not limited to) facilities known in the
12 pay telephone industry as dial-tone functionality, coin lines,
13 coin-line functionalities (e.g., central office-driven answer
14 supervision, blocking and screening, rating of toll calls, and
15 other functions and features), wires, switches, transmission
16 facilities, and other central office facilities and services used
17 to provide pay telephone service. The use of the facilities
18 described in paragraphs 14-16 hereof is essential to plaintiffs'
19 businesses. These essential facilities cannot be practically or
20 economically duplicated, and at times, competitors were prevented
21 from duplicating those facilities as a matter of law. U S WEST
22 has a monopoly in the ownership and provision of those
23 facilities.

24 17. The term "telecommunications services" refers to
25 the offering for hire of the essential telecommunication
26

1
2 facilities or of telecommunications by means of the essential
3 facilities.

4 General Allegations

5 18. American Telephone & Telegraph Company ("AT&T"),
6 through its ownership of the former Bell Operating Companies
7 ("BOCs"), had a monopoly on the provision of IntraLATA and
8 InterLATA telecommunications services furnished to the customers
9 of the BOCs. As a result of litigation commenced by the
10 United States, a modified final judgment ("MFJ") was entered
11 effective January 1, 1984, directing AT&T to divest itself of its
12 ownership of the BOCs (United States v. American Tel. & Tel. Co.,
13 552 F. Supp. 131 (D.D.C. 1982), aff'd sub nom. Maryland v. United
14 States, 460 U.S. 1001 (1983). The BOCs thereafter became owned
15 by Regional Holding Companies ("RHCs") and were known as Regional
16 Bell Operating Companies ("RBOCs"). Defendant U S WEST is one of
17 those RBOCs. Generally, after divestiture, the RHCs, through
18 RBOCs (which serve specific geographic areas), retained
19 monopolies on essential facilities for the transmission of local
20 calls (i.e., local exchange facilities) and for access to
21 interexchange carriers (such as AT&T and MCI) for the origination
22 and termination of toll calls (i.e., exchange access facilities).
23 U S WEST is in the business of providing telecommunications
24 services as the LEC monopolist in many geographic areas in 14
25 states, including Washington and Oregon.

1

2 19. The MFJ mandated the breakup of the old Bell
3 Telephone system and facilitated the development of competition
4 in the long distance telephone market. Under its terms, the
5 former service area of the Bell System was divided into small
6 regions, or LATAs. The RBOCs were prohibited from providing
7 telephone service between LATAs. Such InterLATA service was to
8 be provided by AT&T and its competitors (such as MCI and Sprint).
9 United States v. Western Elec. Co., 569 F. Supp. 990, 993-94
10 (D.D.C. 1993).

11 20. Although the MFJ was intended to develop a
12 competitive environment for InterLATA telephone service, the
13 appropriate level of IntraLATA competition was left to the
14 determination of state legislatures and regulatory agencies. The
15 states of Washington and Oregon quickly approved IntraLATA
16 long distance competition. Washington and Oregon deregulated
17 certain aspects of the telecommunications business and introduced
18 competition as a substitute.

19 21. In the mid-1980s, U S WEST introduced
20 "public access line" ("PAL") service, by which owners of
21 coin-operated telephones could connect those telephones to
22 the telephone network.

23 22. As the LEC monopolist in its service area,
24 U S WEST has continued a monopoly on, and owns and controls, the
25 ubiquitous public switched local exchange and exchange access
26 facilities in its service area. As a result, substantially all

1

2 IntraLATA and InterLATA telephone calls in U S WEST's service
3 area are transmitted or handled by U S WEST, using its ubiquitous
4 public switched local exchange and exchange access facilities.

5 23. U S WEST's ubiquitous public switched local
6 exchange and exchange access facilities are essential facilities
7 to the provision of pay telephone services by U S WEST and by
8 competing pay telephone providers, including plaintiffs. These
9 essential facilities are vital to transmitting an IntraLATA or
10 InterLATA pay telephone call and to the competitive viability of
11 competitive pay telephone providers. As described below,
12 U S WEST formulated and implemented a plan to deny plaintiffs
13 access to its essential facilities or to provide access to
14 competing pay telephone providers only on an unreasonable or
15 discriminatory basis.

16 24. U S WEST operates at two levels of the
17 telecommunications industry: (a) as purchaser of goods and
18 services and (b) as seller of other goods and services.

19 25. U S WEST has been a monopolist in the product or
20 service market of providing pay telephone service for callers in
21 its service area. U S WEST has also been a monopsonist in
22 obtaining sites or locations for the installation and operation
23 of pay telephones. The locations are obtained from location
24 providers by negotiating for and entering into location
25 agreements in exchange for commissions paid to the location
26 providers. Obtaining installation locations enables a

1

2 telecommunications provider to compete for customers who use pay
3 telephones. Plaintiffs therefore must compete with U S WEST in
4 obtaining pay telephone locations in order to also compete
5 against U S WEST in the pay telephone business. U S WEST
6 intended to use and has used its monopsonist power in obtaining
7 pay telephone locations to maintain and enhance its monopoly in
8 the market for provision of pay telephone services.

9 26. The owners of pay telephones generate revenues
10 through the installation and operation of those pay telephones.
11 Pay telephone owners typically enter into written contracts with
12 location owners that give the pay telephone owners the right to
13 install and operate one or more pay telephones on the location
14 provider's premises in exchange for the payment of commissions to
15 the location provider. The commissions usually take the form
16 of a specified percentage of the revenues generated by the
17 pay telephones. Pay telephone providers compete for the
18 contractual rights to a location at which to install and operate
19 pay telephones, and that competition largely revolves around
20 price competition (i.e., commission rates).

21 27. At the time of AT&T's divestiture of its ownership
22 of the BOCs, U S WEST controlled almost 100 percent of the
23 pay telephone sites and the pay telephone market in its service
24 area. Competitive owners of pay telephones were able to enter
25 the market only after the advent of new technology and the
26 issuance of a regulatory order by the Federal Communications

1

2 Commission ("FCC") authorizing the connection of non-LEC
3 pay telephones to the switched network. Plaintiffs entered the
4 pay telephone market in about 1986 and now compete with U S WEST
5 in the installation and operation of pay telephones in U S WEST's
6 service area.

7 28. After the opening of the pay telephone market to
8 competition, plaintiffs attempted to make inroads into the market
9 by offering location providers higher commissions than the
10 commissions that had previously been offered by U S WEST. In
11 order to prevent erosion of its monopsony share of the pay
12 telephone market within its service area, U S WEST adopted and
13 embarked on a plan to slow the emergence of competition and
14 maintain its monopoly status in the pay telephone business.
15 U S WEST's plan was made possible because of its unique status as
16 the LEC monopolist and the provider of essential facilities to
17 the pay telephone business of its competitors and because of its
18 monopoly share of the pay telephone market in its service area.

19 Anticompetitive Acts of U S WEST

20 29. At the time of AT&T's divestiture of its ownership
21 of the BOCs, U S WEST controlled almost 100 percent of the
22 relevant product market in the relevant geographic area. The
23 relevant product market is the market for the installation and
24 operation of pay telephones on the premises of location
25 providers. The relevant geographic market is U S WEST's service
26 area within the states of Washington and Oregon.

1

2 30. After issuance of a regulatory order by the FCC
3 authorizing the connection of non-LEC pay telephones to the
4 public switched network, coupled with the advent of new
5 technology that had been needed because U S WEST refused to
6 provide coin lines, plaintiffs competed with U S WEST along with
7 other independent pay telephone providers in seeking
8 opportunities to install and operate pay telephones in U S WEST's
9 service area.

10 31. In order to obtain installation locations,
11 plaintiffs offered location providers higher commissions than had
12 been offered by U S WEST before deregulation. As plaintiffs
13 began to obtain pay telephone locations, U S WEST adopted and
14 embarked on a course of action to slow the emergence of
15 competition and to repress and eliminate competition so as to
16 retain its de facto monopoly status in the pay telephone
17 business.

18 32. U S WEST realized that it retained full discretion
19 in the placement of its pay telephones, the content of its
20 advertising, and the level of commissions it paid to location
21 owners. U S WEST therefore pursued a strategy of eliminating
22 competition through cross-subsidization and unfair business
23 activities designed and intended to retain and increase its share
24 of pay telephone sites by doing, among other things, the
25 following:

26

1
2 a. Greatly increasing the level of commissions
3 it paid to location owners.

4 b. Disseminating false and misleading
5 information to site owners and to the consuming public
6 about the costs and level of service on privately owned
7 pay telephones.

8 c. Discriminating in the provision of
9 telecommunications services.

10 d. Interfering with contracts between plaintiffs
11 and pay telephone location providers.

12 e. Refusing to pay compensation to plaintiffs
13 for IntraLATA operator services originating at
14 plaintiffs' pay telephones.

15 f. Discriminating against plaintiffs in its
16 billing and collection charges.

17 33. As U S WEST's plan was implemented, plaintiffs and
18 other privately owned pay telephone providers could not obtain
19 profits sufficient to compete with U S WEST. U S WEST was able
20 to pay higher commissions by using profits generated in other
21 aspects of its business. Private pay telephone owners, on the
22 other hand, were limited in the amount of commission they could
23 offer to location owners by the revenues actually generated from
24 the pay telephone business. In an effort to stay in competition,
25 private pay telephone owners had to make other charges to
26 consumers of telephone services. U S WEST thereafter focused

1
2 its advertising and sales strategy on charges the private
3 pay telephone owners had to make to support commissions, while
4 concealing the fact that U S WEST was able to pay higher
5 commissions only through cross-subsidization. U S WEST's
6 statements to pay telephone location owners and to consumers
7 of telecommunications services unfairly portrayed private
8 pay telephone owners as greedy and as providing inadequate
9 services and equipment, even though U S WEST itself was
10 responsible for refusing to provide essential services to
11 private pay telephone owners.

12 34. The essential facilities that U S WEST refused to
13 provide to plaintiffs, but provided to its own system of
14 pay telephone operations, included the following:

15 a. Coin Lines and Coin-Line Functionalities.

16 i. Among the essential facilities that
17 U S WEST owns and controls as the LEC monopolist in
18 its service area are coin lines and coin-line
19 functionalities used by U S WEST's pay telephones.
20 The coin lines are connected to central office
21 equipment programmed to provide answer supervision and
22 to block completion of calls made from U S WEST's
23 pay telephones unless the central office equipment
24 detects that the U S WEST pay telephone has received
25 the correct payment through the deposit of coins.

26 U S WEST refused to provide coin lines and coin-line

1
2 functionalities to plaintiffs and instead provided
3 plaintiffs with access only to PALs, a type of service
4 that is essentially the same as the lines installed at
5 any business location.

6 ii. U S WEST charged more for PALs than for
7 business lines, even though the functions were the
8 same.

9 iii. U S WEST could feasibly have provided
10 plaintiffs with access to or the use of coin lines and
11 coin-line functionalities, but it has refused to do so.
12 As a result, plaintiffs were forced to invest in
13 technologically complex "smart" pay telephones, which
14 are more expensive yet inadequate substitutes for
15 access to coin lines and coin-line functionalities.
16 Plaintiffs cannot practically or reasonably duplicate
17 U S WEST's essential facilities.

18 b. Operator Services.

19 U S WEST, as the LEC monopolist in its
20 service area, has market power over operator services.
21 U S WEST has denied operator service commission
22 payments to plaintiffs and has imposed different and
23 more expensive cost structures on them than on its own
24 pay phone services.

25 c. Validation, Billing, and Collection Services.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26

i. Among the essential services U S WEST owns, controls, or has power over as the LEC monopolist in its service area are validation, billing, and collection services. Validation services consist of services to validate credit card numbers and telephone numbers to which a telephone call is to be charged. The billing and collection services are services to bill for and collect on telephone calls actually completed.

ii. U S WEST charges different rates to different customers for billing and collection services. U S WEST charges other customers and itself less for certain services than it charges plaintiffs for the same services.

d. Refusal to Supply Access Lines.

On various occasions, U S WEST has refused to provide access lines to plaintiffs or has provided access lines only after unreasonable delays in order to prevent plaintiffs from installing pay telephones at locations already served by U S WEST's pay telephones. If one of plaintiffs' telephones is already serving a location, however, U S WEST does not delay installation of lines to its own pay telephones.

35. In order to increase the operational costs incurred by plaintiffs and diminish plaintiffs' ability to

1
2 compete with U S WEST for location providers, U S WEST withheld
3 essential telecommunications services from plaintiffs. U S WEST
4 then charged itself less for those services than it charged
5 plaintiffs for the essential telecommunications services it did
6 provide to plaintiffs. If U S WEST had paid the same rates for
7 the essential telecommunications services that plaintiffs were
8 required to pay, U S WEST's costs would have exceeded the rates
9 it charged to consumers who used U S WEST pay telephones. Thus,
10 U S WEST has used its continued control over essential
11 telecommunications services to create a "price squeeze" on
12 plaintiffs. U S WEST has been able to do this because it can,
13 and does, cross-subsidize its pay telephone services with
14 revenues it earns in other lines of business in which U S WEST
15 also has monopoly power.

16 Utility Commission Rulings

17 36. On February 7, 1992, the Northwest Payphone
18 Association ("NWPPA") and four of its members (Digital Access
19 Communications Corp., NCS Telework Communications Co., Paytel
20 Northwest, Inc., and Public Communications of America) filed a
21 complaint against U S WEST with the Washington Utilities and
22 Transportation Commission (the "Commission"), alleging that the
23 charges, rules, regulations, and practices of U S WEST regarding
24 the pay telephone services of non-local exchange company providers
25 were unreasonable, discriminatory, illegal, and unfair under laws
26 applicable to public service companies (RCW Title 80). The

1
2 Commission held hearings and issued an order dated March 7, 1995,
3 in which it made the following rulings:

4 The complainants allege that U S WEST is acting in
5 an anticompetitive manner by creating a price squeeze
6 and by discriminating between the services it provides
7 for competitive payphone providers and the services it
 provides for its own payphone operations. . . . A
 price squeeze is defined by the NWPPA as the equivalent
 of selling below cost.

8 Northwest Payphone Ass'n v. U S WEST Communications, Inc., WUTC

9 Docket No. UT-920174, Order Granting Compl. at 7 (Mar. 17, 1995)

10 ("Order").

11 The Commission believes the complainants have
12 substantiated their allegation that they are subject
 to a price squeeze in the public payphone market.

13 Order at 14.

14 The NWPPA also alleges that U S WEST discriminates
15 between the services it provides [competitive payphone
16 providers] and those it provides its own payphone
17 operations. This includes differences in how quickly
18 public access lines are provisioned, access to customer
 proprietary network information, and the actual
 services provided CPPs compared to those which serve
 U S WEST payphones.

19 . . . By not providing Coin Line service, a
20 service U S WEST provides itself, U S WEST forces the
 CPPs to incur additional capital investment. . . .

21 . . .

22 . . . By not providing a similar service to
23 competitive payphone providers, U S WEST has granted
24 itself undue preference or advantage in the public
 payphone market. The company's unwillingness to offer
 these services forces CPPs to invest in more expensive
 "smart" payphones.

25 . . .

26 In order to limit U S WEST's ability to
 discriminate between the network services it provides

1
2 itself and those it provides competitors, the
3 Commission orders U S WEST to respond in writing to all
4 legitimate requests for those network services from
5 competitive payphone providers within 120 days.

6 (Footnote omitted.) Order at 17-19. On June 30, 1995, the
7 Commission reaffirmed the order on reconsideration. U S WEST
8 is collaterally estopped from contesting in this case the
9 Commission's findings of fact and conclusions of law under
10 Washington's public utility statutes.

11 37. U S WEST has sought to avoid the impact of the
12 Commission's order by (a) substantially raising the commission
13 rates it offers to location providers and (b) installing more
14 expensive and sophisticated-appearing new pay telephone sets.
15 The costs of these higher commissions and more expensive
16 telephone sets are subsidized by U S WEST's other business
17 activities and not earned from its pay telephone business.

18 38. U S WEST is not regulated with respect to the
19 placement of its pay telephones, the content of its advertising,
20 the level of commissions it pays to location owners, the type of
21 pay telephones it installs for use by the consumer,
22 operator service commissions, or intrastate billing and
23 collection rates.

24 FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

25 Monopolization (15 U.S.C. § 2)

26 39. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference all the
 allegations in paragraphs 1 through 38 above.

1

2 40. U S WEST has monopoly power in the relevant market
3 for installation and operation of pay telephones on the premises
4 of location providers (U S WEST's monopoly is more accurately
5 described as a monopsony because U S WEST is monopolizing the
6 buying side of the market rather than the selling side).

7 41. There is a dangerous probability that U S WEST
8 will succeed in recapturing its former monopoly market share of
9 pay telephone installation locations by erecting significant
10 barriers to entry in the market, by refusing to provide essential
11 services, by forcing plaintiffs to absorb significant losses from
12 preventable telephone service theft, and by using its monopoly
13 profits in its other lines of business to provide funds to bid up
14 the amount of commissions that will be paid to the site owner.
15 In addition, U S WEST spreads false and misleading information
16 about plaintiffs to pay telephone location providers and
17 potential providers in order to win away existing sites or
18 lock up future sites and in order to exclude plaintiffs from the
19 highly desirable and lucrative sites (such as airports, luxury
20 hotels, food chain stores, and large commercial buildings).

21 42. There is a dangerous probability that U S WEST
22 will succeed in also recapturing its former monopoly in the pay
23 telephone service market as a result of U S WEST's exercise of
24 monopsony powers in the supply market for locations for pay
25 telephones. Regaining this monopoly will have an adverse effect
26 on consumers of pay telephone services because it will lessen the

1

2 availability of pay telephone services. As a monopsonist buyer,
3 U S WEST can reduce the purchase price on pay telephone locations
4 after eliminating plaintiffs as competitors. Because a
5 monopsonist ordinarily reduces its buying price by purchasing
6 less, a monopsonist sells less to its own customers; because
7 U S WEST has market power in selling pay telephone services, the
8 reduction in output will mean reduced availability of service.

9 43. U S WEST's conduct has been carried on with the
10 purpose of excluding plaintiffs from the relevant market and
11 placing itself in the position of being the sole provider of pay
12 telephone services.

13 44. U S WEST's unlawful conduct is continuing and
14 threatens continuing loss and damage to plaintiffs. Unless
15 U S WEST is enjoined by this court, plaintiffs will suffer
16 irreparable injury and the market for pay telephone services will
17 be deprived of competition.

18 45. U S WEST's actions constitute a violation of
19 Section 2 of the Sherman Act (15 U.S.C. § 2). U S WEST's actions
20 have had an adverse impact on plaintiffs and on the market for
21 pay telephone services. Plaintiffs have been and will be damaged
22 monetarily by being deprived of the opportunity to compete in the
23 market for delivery of pay telephone services. Plaintiffs'
24 damages will be ascertained at trial, and plaintiffs request that
25 the damages be trebled, pursuant to the provisions of 15 U.S.C.
26 § 2.

1
2 SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

3 Prevention of Access to Essential Facilities
4 in Violation of 15 U.S.C. § 2

5 46. Plaintiffs incorporate by reference the
6 allegations in paragraphs 1 through 45 above.

7 47. U S WEST controls facilities that are essential to
8 a business entity that intends to provide pay telephone services
9 to consumers (such as dial tone, coin lines, repair services,
10 installation services, and operator services).

11 48. U S WEST's refusal to provide plaintiffs with
12 access to these essential facilities and to do so on the same
13 terms and conditions as U S WEST enjoys for its own activities
14 effectively constitutes a removal of the essential facilities
15 from plaintiffs.

16 49. Control of the essential facilities carries with
17 it the power to eliminate competition in the market for delivery
18 of pay telephone services. U S WEST's ability to eliminate
19 competition is permanent or relatively permanent because of the
20 inability of any enterprise to duplicate the essential
21 facilities.

22 50. Consumers are harmed by U S WEST's refusal to
23 provide access to the essential facilities because competition
24 has been harmed and will be eliminated. As a direct result of
25 elimination of competition, consumers will face diminished access
26 to pay telephone services.